



Wisconsin Department Of Natural Resources

Fisheries Information Sheet

Deerskin Lake, Vilas County, 2026

Waterbody Information

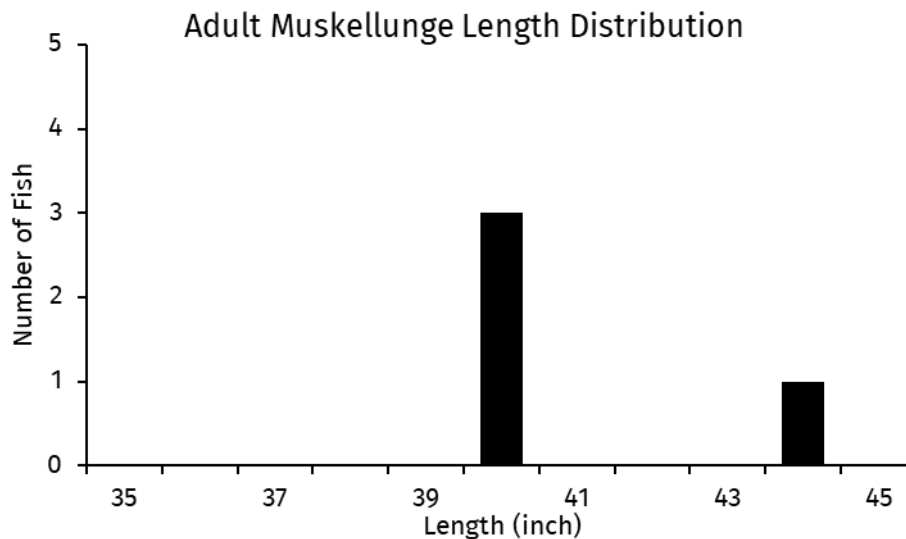
Deerskin Lake is a 309-acre spring-fed lake with 3.9 miles of shoreline and maximum depth of 18 feet. The lake is classified as a complex-cool-dark lake. Bottom substrates consist predominantly of sand, gravel, and muck. The lake's muskellunge population has historically been supported by stocking.

Survey Information

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted a spring netting survey of Deerskin Lake targeting adult muskellunge from May 11 to May 14, 2026. Other species reported here weren't specifically targeted during the survey, but the catch provides some insight into their abundance and length distribution.

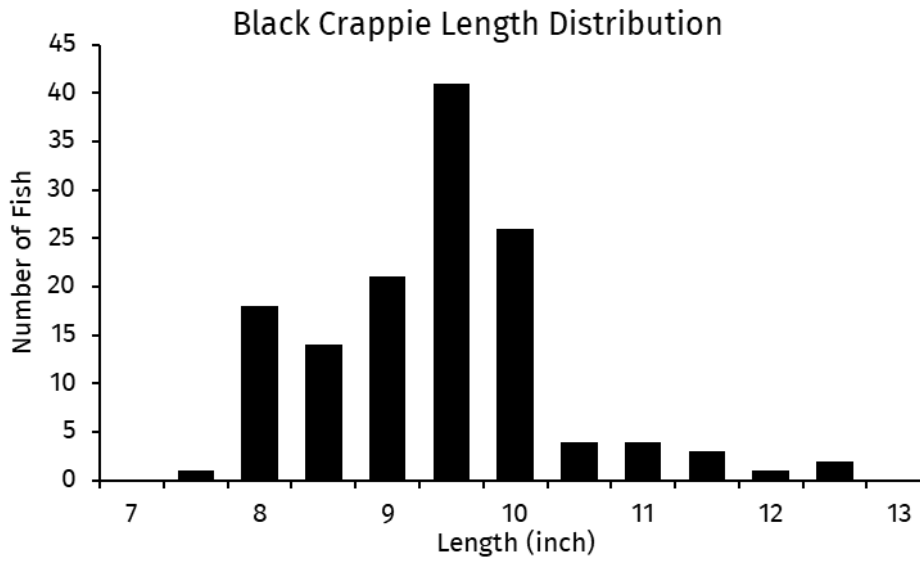
Muskellunge

During the survey, four adult muskellunge (sexually mature or ≥ 30 inches) were captured. Muskellunge were captured at a rate of 0.22 per net night, placing it below the 25th percentile for its lake class. All adults captured were ≥ 40 inches, and the largest was a 44.1-inch female. The accompanying bar chart shows the observed muskellunge length distribution with fish ranging from 40 to 44 inches.



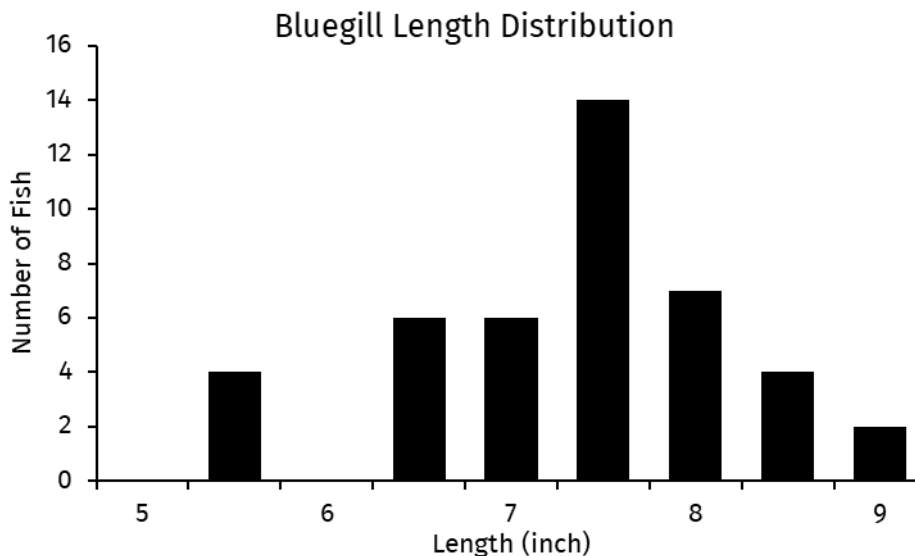
Black Crappie

A total of 161 black crappie were captured in fyke nets at a rate of 8.9 fish per net night, placing it between the 50th and 75th percentile for the lake class. Of the 135 black crappie measured, average length was 9.6 inches, 30% were ≥ 10 inches and the largest was 12.8 inches. The accompanying bar chart shows the observed black crappie length distribution with fish ranging from 7.5 to 12.5 inches and a peak occurring at 9.5 inches.



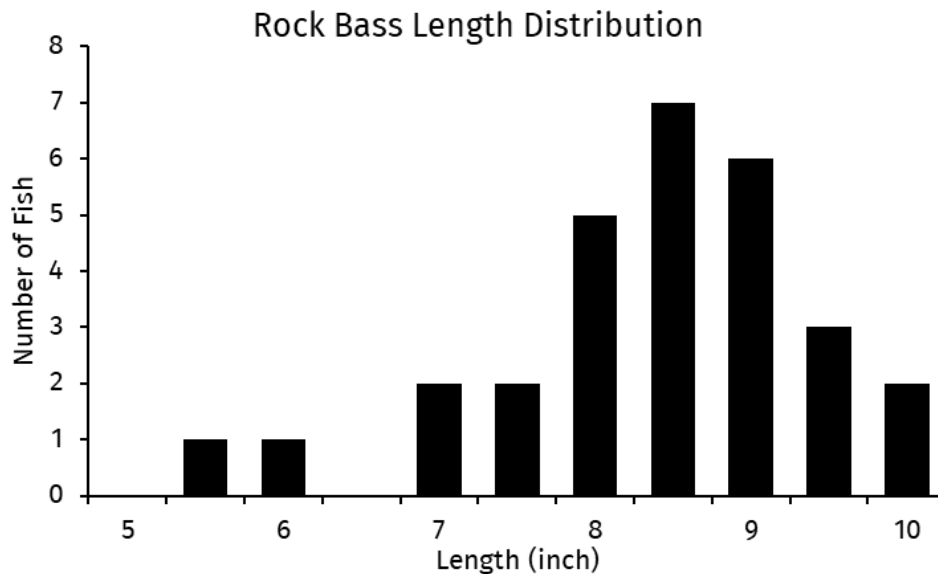
Bluegill and Pumpkinseed

A total of 43 bluegill were captured during netting. Bluegill average length was 7.5 inches, 78% were ≥ 7 inches and the largest was 9.1 inches. The accompanying bar chart shows the observed bluegill length distribution with fish ranging from 5.5 to 9 inches and a peak occurring at 7.5 inches. A total of five pumpkinseed were captured in nets, ranging in length from 7.3 to 8.0 inches.



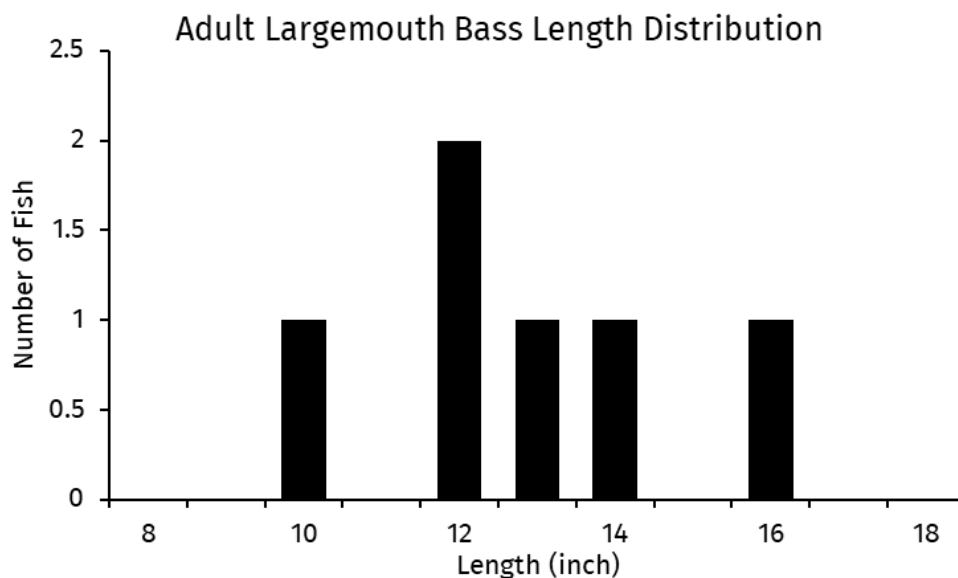
Rock Bass

A total of 32 rock bass were captured during netting, ranging in length from 5.8 to 10.3 inches and averaging 6.2 inches. The accompanying bar chart shows the observed rock bass length distribution with fish ranging from 5.5 to 10 inches and a peak occurring at 8.5 inches.



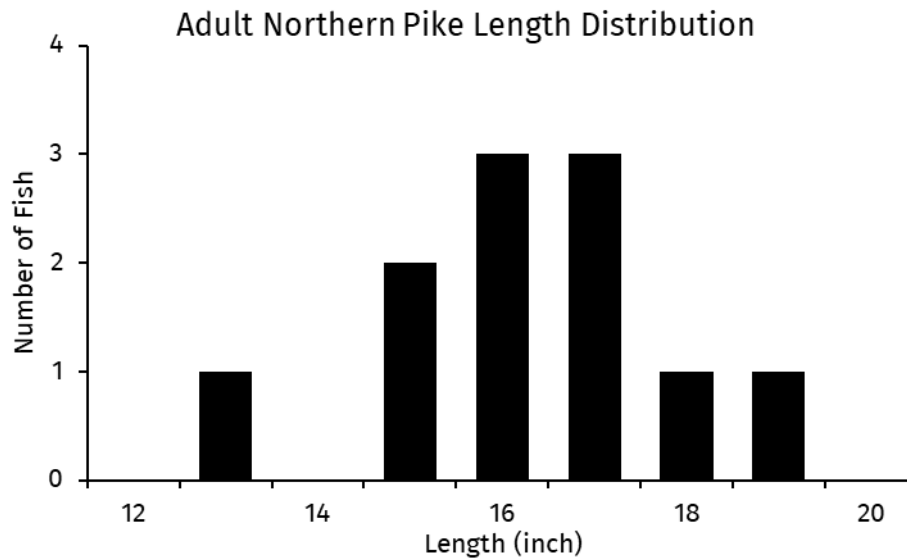
Largemouth Bass

A total of six adult largemouth bass (≥ 8 inches) were captured, 33% were ≥ 14 inches, average length was 13.5 and the largest was 16.6 inches. The accompanying bar chart shows the observed adult largemouth bass length distribution with fish ranging from 10 to 16 inches with a peak at 12 inches.



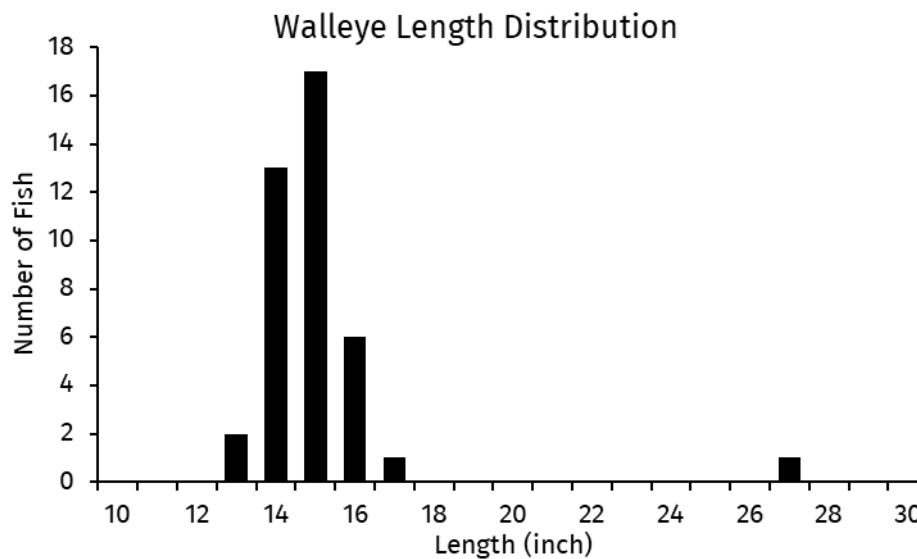
Northern Pike

During the survey, 11 adult northern pike (sexually mature or ≥ 12 inches) were captured along with 1 juvenile. Average length of adults was 16.7 inches and the largest was 19.6 inches. The accompanying bar chart shows the observed adult northern pike length distribution with fish ranging from 13 to 19 inches.



Walleye

A total of 40 walleye were captured, ranging in length from 13.8 to 27.0 inches and averaging 15.5 inches. The accompanying bar chart shows the observed walleye length distribution with fish ranging from 13 to 27 inches.



Other Species

The only other species captured during the survey was white sucker.

Table 1. General fishing regulations for Deerskin, Vilas County, WI in 2026-27.

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Size Limit
Largemouth bass (LMB)	1 st Saturday in May – 1 st Sunday in March	5 in total with SMB	14 inch minimum
Smallmouth bass (SMB)	3 rd Saturday in June – 1 st Sunday in March	5 in total with LMB	14 inch minimum
Northern pike	1 st Saturday in May – 1 st Sunday in March	5	None
Muskellunge	1 st Saturday in May – Dec 31 (open water only)	1	40 inch minimum
Walleye	1 st Saturday in May – 1 st Sunday in March	3 in total	18 inch minimum
Panfish	Open all year	25 in total, but only 5 bluegill	None

Contact Information

For questions regarding fisheries management activities on Deerskin Lake, contact Vilas County Fisheries Biologist Eric Wegleitner.

Eric Wegleitner

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